

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 04490 161611Z

50

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-12 DODE-00 AID-07 PM-03

INR-10 CIAE-00 /047 W

----- 014395

R 161430Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2911

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAUA 4490

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, NU

SUBJECT: IV NOMINEE ARTURO VALLEJOS

REF: STATE 211842

1. THE EMBASSY HAS NEVER NOMINATED A GUARDIA OFFICER FOR A LEADER GRANT AND REGARDS THE VALLEJOS NOMINATION IS AN ATTEMPT TO COME TO TERMS WITH NICARAGUAN REALITIES. A NUMBER OF UPPER-LEVEL CIVILIAN POSITIONS ARE OCCUPIED BY THE MILITARY. THE MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AND FINANCE, AND THE VICE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION, DEFENSE AND FINANCE ARE RETIRED GUARDIA OFFICERS. THE DIRECTORS OF RADIO, CIVIL AVIATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AS WELL AS THE CHIEF OF POLICE ARE OFFICERS ON ACTIVE DUTY.

2. WHILE IT IS STILL TOO EARLY IN HIS CAREER FOR HIM TO HOLD SUCH POSITIONS, THE EMBASSY FEELS THAT VALLEJOS WILL PROBABLY DO SO AT A LATER STAGE IN HIS CAREER. THE LAW DEGREE FOR WHICH HE WORKED DURING HIS OFF-DUTY HOURS, HIS SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR COURSE AND AN INFANTRY RANGER COURSE IN THE UNITED STATES AND OF AN AIRBORNE COURSE IN THE CANAL ZONE, HIS PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT TO THE GUARDIA'S ELITE COMBAT UNIT, AND HIS PRESENT DUTIES AS TACTICAL OFFICER IN THE MILITARY ACADEMY ATTEST TO HIS ABILITY AND AMBITION. THIS LAST DUTY IS CRITICAL TO THE TRAINING OF MILITARY CADETS AND ONLY THOSE WHO ARE RECOGNIZED AS POSSESSING TALENT AND THE BEST TRAITS OF CHARACTER AND INTEGRITY ARE SELECTED. IN THIS CAPACITY HE EXERTS CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE ON THE GUARDIA'S FUTURE OFFICERS. SINCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 04490 161611Z

THE DECEMBER 1972 EARTHQUAKE HE HAS ALSO BEEN SERVING ON THE

PERMANENT MILITARY TRIBUNAL WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED TO ADJUDICATE CERTAIN CASES UNDER THE PRESENT STATE OF MARTIAL LAW. THE FACT THAT HE IS THE SON-IN-LAW OF MAJOR GENERAL ALFONSO PEREZ, PAYMASTER GENERAL OF THE GUARDIA AND A TRUSTED MILITARY COMMANDER CLOSE TO GENERAL SOMOZA WILL ALSO AID HIS ADVANCEMENT. VALLEJOS' RANK OF LIEUTENANT CANNOT BE EQUATED WITH THE U.S. RANK. TIME-IN-GRADE IS MUCH LONGER IN NICARAGUA. GENERAL SOMOZA'S MOST TRUSTED AIDE, WHO IS IN HIS MIDDLE FORTIES, HAS JUST BEEN PROMOTED TO MAJOR. BY NICARAGUAN STANDARDS VALLEJOS IS ADVANCING AT A BETTER-THAN-AVERAGE RATE.

3. BY SENDING VALLEJOS TO THE UNITED STATES ON A LEADER GRANT, THE EMBASSY WOULD NOT BE ATTEMPTING TO CHANGE HIS GENERAL ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE U.S. SYSTEM, WHICH IS ALREADY POSITIVE. RATHER, BY EXPOSING VALLEJOS AND OFFICERS LIKE HIM TO U.S. CULTURE AND SOCIETY WHILE THEY ARE STILL IN A "FORMATIVE PROCESS," THE EMBASSY CAN EXERT A HUMANIZING AND "INTELLECTUALIZING" FORCE ON AN INSTITUTION THAT WILL PLAY A KEY ROLE IN ALL ASPECTS OF NICARAGUAN LIFE FOR YEARS TO COME.

4. VALLEJOS HAS ALREADY BEEN TO THE U.S. AND PANAMA ON MAP FUNDS AND IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ANY MORE TRAINING UNDER THE MAP PROGRAM AT THIS STAGE OF HIS CAREER.
SHELTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MANAGU04490
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731129/aaaaavfi.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 211842
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IV NOMINEE ARTURO VALLEJOS
TAGS: OEXC, NU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005